ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical disk includes a recording region formed on a substrate for recording user data, and a management region formed on the substrate which includes an identification information region for recording disk-specific identification information such as address information (ID), a SYNC code, or an error detection code (EDC). The identification information region in this optical disk has a flat portion (a mirror region) formed by means of sectioning part of a groove or a land in a given step. The disk-specific identification information is recorded on the identification information region inclusive of this mirror region as irreversible record marks. Moreover, a signal of the disk-specific identification information is detected by a laser beam which is servoed on the recording track of this optical disk. Then, a change in the detected signal level of the disk-specific identification information is detected based on a predetermined threshold level.

[Selected Drawing] Fig. 1